

# COMMENT FORM

## ILLINOIS ROUTE 29 DESIGN STUDY

If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

DEAR ERIC,

Long time no HEAR! I HAD BEEN WONDERING WHAT YOU GUYS HAVE BEEN DOING. Well, I STILL DON'T FAVOR A ROAD OF ANY KIND TO CONNECT US TO CHICAGO, BUT I WILL SAY THAT THE CLOSER YOU ARE TO CHILLI THE LESS YOU WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH ME. CHILLICOTHE WANTS THAT ROAD AND THEY ARE WRONG, BUT RUN IT RIGHT UP THERE A \_\_\_\_\_. All of our LIVES WILL BE CHANGED IF THIS IS ALLOWED TO HAPPEN. We live in the country and wish to keep it that way.

BUILD THE RING AND LEAVE US ALONE!

FIX THE ROADS WE HAVE!!!

Name:

RON DUNBAR

Affiliation:

NORTHAMPTON ASSHOLE

Address:

you know where I live!!!

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4  
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111  
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 27, 2003

BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT  
STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I  
Illinois Route 29  
Various Counties  
Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180  
Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02  
Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. Ron Dunbar  
22612 N. Hampton Road  
Chillicothe, IL 61523

Dear Mr. Dunbar:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comments, you expressed your opposition to the Illinois 29 project. Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your viewpoint. Your input will be included in the project record.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe'.

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

# COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study



If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

Please don't take our house. We have no where to go. I want to stay in my school and my house.

Name: Katie Price Age 9

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 518 County rd. 850 E  
Spartan

Please fold, tape, and mail. ~~No envelope or postage is necessary.~~

☐ Please add my name to the mailing list.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4  
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111  
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 23, 2003

## BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT STUDIES & PLANS – PHASE I

Illinois Route 29

Various Counties

Four-lane study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180

Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02

Catalog No. 032469-00P

Miss Katie Price  
518 County Road 850E  
Sparland, IL 61565

Dear Miss Price:

Thank you for your comments about the Illinois 29 project. Your comment form has been reviewed and included in the official records for the project. The Illinois Department of Transportation understands how you feel, and we appreciate you taking the time to write down your thoughts.

Building a new highway takes a long time, and we do not know exactly where the road will be built. At this time, therefore, we do not know if the new road would affect your family's house. The Department tries to find a place for the road that will avoid things like buildings, lakes, cemeteries, and parks. Not all of these can be avoided, but in the next few years, we will work to find the best place to build a new, safe highway that will avoid as many of these things as possible. Please keep in mind, however, planning a road takes a long time, and it will be several years before any construction could start.

The Department appreciates you participating in this very important project. If you have any questions about this project, please feel free to contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JEC'.

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer

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Enclosure

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

# COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study



If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

Please don't take our house.  
We have no where to go!  
I want to stay in my school.

Name: Jessica Price Age 6

Affiliation:

Address: 518 County Rd. 850 E  
Spartanburg, Ill.

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☐ Please add my name to the mailing list.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



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401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111  
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October 23, 2003

BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT  
STUDIES & PLANS – PHASE I  
Illinois Route 29  
Various Counties  
Four-lane study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180  
Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02  
Catalog No. 032469-00P

Miss Jessica Price  
518 County Road 850E  
Sparland, IL 61565

Dear Miss Price:

Thank you for your comments about the Illinois 29 project. Your comment form has been reviewed and included in the official records for the project. The Illinois Department of Transportation understands how you feel, and we appreciate you taking the time to write down your thoughts.

On your comment form, you expressed concern for your family's house and for the chance to stay in your school. We understand your concern for keeping your house and school. At this time, we do not know where the road will go or if your house would be affected. That is why it is important for you and your family to be involved by attending meetings and writing letters. We cannot always miss everyone's house, but your input helps us decide where the road will go.

The Department appreciates you being a part of the process for this very important project. If you have any questions about this project, please feel free to contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

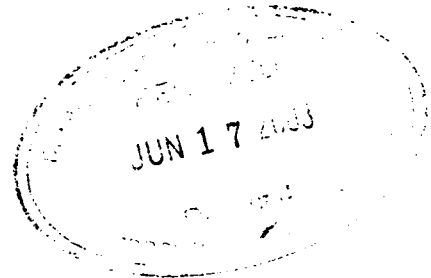
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe'.

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer

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Enclosure

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

Eric Therkildsen, P.E., Program Development Engineer  
Division of Highways/District 4  
Illinois Department of Transportation  
401 Main Street  
Peoria, IL 61602



June 16, 2003

RE: Proposed S-5 corridor near Chillicothe, IL

I attended the open house at Three Sisters Park on June 12th and am devastated by the proposed corridor.

It's going to consume approximately 16 acres of tillable farm land of a 40 acre farm that's been in the family for 60 years; and the remainder of tillable farm land would be hard to rent.

As it stands now, this new road would wipe out two family homes on Cloverdale Road. I'm estimating that these two homes would be valued at a minimum of \$400,000.

My wife and I are now in our Senior years and this would create a hardship on us to have to re-locate. We built this home ourselves 46 years ago.

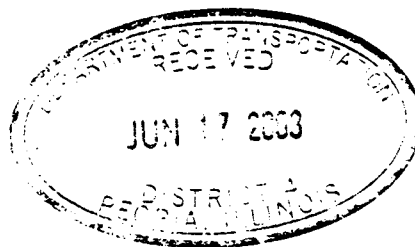
I am a Marine Corps Korean War veteran and I thought I had to fear terrorists; instead I have to fear IDOT. If this highway S-5 moves one-quarter (1/4) mile east, it would eliminate the destruction of two (2) homes.

Please consider the above solution. Looking forward to hearing from you soon.  
My mailing address is:

Mr. John C. Wagner  
4210 East Cloverdale Road  
Chillicothe, IL 61523-9568

Respectfully,

*John C. Wagner*





# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4  
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111  
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 23, 2003

## BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I

Illinois Route 29  
Various Counties  
Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180  
Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02  
Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. John Wagner  
4210 East Cloverdale Road  
Chillicothe, IL 61523

Dear Mr. Wagner:

Thank you for your letter commenting on the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. We received a letter from you directly and a copy forwarded from Congressman Ray LaHood's office. A copy of your letter is enclosed for your reference.

In your enclosed comment letter, you expressed opposition to Alignment S-5 at Chillicothe. Your opposition was based on the impact to homes along Cloverdale Road and impacts to a farm owned by your family. At this time, the alignment studies are still in a very preliminary form. The final alignment has not been decided upon, so which properties will be affected is not known. As the project develops, impacts to homes and individual properties will be minimized to the greatest extent possible.

More detailed information regarding affected properties will be available at future public meetings. Notice of these meetings will be given in local newspapers and will be included in the project's newsletter. You have been placed on the mailing list for the newsletter as you requested on a comment form at the public meeting. If you would like an individual meeting with a representative of the Department to discuss the project, this could be arranged as well.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,


A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph E. Crowe'.

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

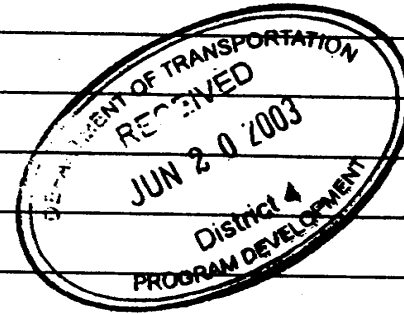
cc: Congressman Ray LaHood  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)  
Eric Therkildsen  
Project File (M. Lewis)

# COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study 

If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

I would like to receive answers to several questions which were not answered by IDOT staff present at the open meeting. 1. What volume of daily traffic is required to justify an overpass? 2. What do you consider an acceptable increase in emergency vehicle response time caused by road closure? 3. What provisions will be made to accommodate school bus routes? 4. What assistance will be given to rural townships and county road snow removal efforts to compensate for existing roads being closed on one end? 5. What is the projected cost to build this highway? 6. What is the projected annual maintenance cost of this highway? 7. How much will tax rates be increased to pay for this highway?



Name: Edwin Kach

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 16425 N. Krause Rd  
Chillicothe, IL 61523

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☒ Please add my name to the mailing list.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4  
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111  
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 22, 2003

BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT  
STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I  
Illinois Route 29  
Various Counties  
Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180  
Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02  
Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. Edwin Kach  
16425 N. Krause Road  
Chillicothe, IL 61523

Dear Mr. Kach:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comments, you asked several questions which we will attempt to address in this letter. Since it is sometimes better to exchange information verbally than in letter-form, please feel free to contact our office if you would like additional information.

First of all, you asked if there is a minimum amount of traffic required to justify an overpass, and you expressed your concern for emergency vehicle response times and school bus routes. There is not a "set" traffic volume to justify bridge overpasses. When planning four-lane facilities such as this, the Department typically works with local officials (including counties and townships) and emergency response teams (police, fire, rescue) prior to making such decisions. Since this facility would intersect with several local roads, such factors as adverse travel, emergency response routes, school bus routes, and cost of a structure are key components in the decision process.

Mr. Edwin Kach  
October 22, 2003  
Page 2

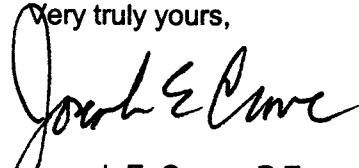
In regard to snow removal efforts, counties typically receive road funding based on population. Townships receive funding based on lane mileage. At this time, no decision has been made to close any roads.

You also asked about the cost to build and the cost to maintain the new highway. Depending upon which alternative is chosen, the cost to construct the new facility ranges from \$350 million to \$500 million. Annual maintenance costs would be the responsibility of the Department. These costs are dependent on several variables, such as road condition, location, and amount of traffic. To cite an example, US 24 (Washington Bypass) costs approximately \$4,000 per mile to maintain. The maintenance includes items like snow removal, mowing, and pothole patching.

In addition, you asked about tax increases to pay for the highway. Funding for highways typically comes from federal and state motor fuel taxes. In Illinois, license plate fees also contribute to road funding. Funding for construction of such a facility would come from these sources. Tax rates, if increased at the federal and state level, are for additional funding of all projects throughout Illinois and the country, and are not considered for individual projects.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,




Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

# COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study 

If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

The Marshall-Putnam SWCD has a concern about the impact to the sensitive Bluff areas and also the Wetland & Miller/Anderson Nature Preserve. What has your study gone to alleviate the impact on these areas & the potential reduction of Prime farmland in Marshall & Putnam County.

Name: Marshall-Putnam SWCD

Affiliation:

Address: 1151 University Court  
Henry IL 601537

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☒ Please add my name to the mailing list.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4  
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111  
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 17, 2003

BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT  
STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I  
Illinois Route 29  
Various Counties  
Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180  
Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02  
Catalog No. 032469-00P

Marshall-Putnam SWCD  
1151 University Court  
Henry, IL 61537

Dear Sirs:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comments, you expressed concern about the impact to the bluff areas, the wetlands, the Miller-Anderson Nature Preserve and the loss of prime farmland in Marshall and Putnam Counties. The Department is aware of the sensitive nature of the natural resources throughout the project corridor. We are currently in the process of evaluating potential roadway cross-sections and alignments that would minimize the effect on these sensitive resources while still providing a cost effective, safe product for the traveling public. A summary of the potential impacts to the environment and possible mitigation measures will be included in an Environmental Impact Statement at the conclusion of the study. Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your concerns.

Marshall-Putnam SWCD  
October 17, 2003  
Page 2

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer

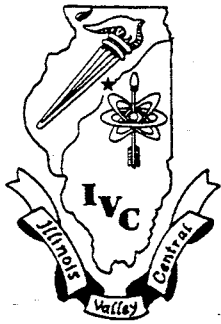


By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)



# Illinois Valley Central

## Unit School District No. 321

1300 W. Sycamore, Chillicothe, Illinois 61523

Phone 309-274-5418

Fax 309-274-5046

June 24, 2003

LARRY J. WILLIAMS  
SUPERINTENDENT

Ladies/Gentlemen:

As superintendent of Illinois Valley Central School District, I have some serious concerns about the type of highway being considered in the Illinois Route 29 Study, as recently explained and demonstrated to the public on June 12 at Three Sisters Park in Chillicothe. Our school district encompasses the area from just north of Detweiller Park to the Marshall County line, and from the Illinois River west almost to Route 40. Approximately 84% of our 2,100 students pre-kindergarten – 12<sup>th</sup> grade are bussed daily to and from school. About 200 students at our high school drive to and from school each day of the school year. As a result, we must have unobstructed access from our schools, all of which are located within ½ mile of the Illinois River, to all points north, south and west of the schools. This means that any design for a new highway running west of the town of Chillicothe would need to allow for a safe and unobstructed passage in order for these busses and drivers to both cross this highway and possibly access this highway for north/south travel.

I spoke with one of your representatives at the Three Sisters Park exhibit, and he told me that this highway would be planned and constructed as either a "thoroughfare" or a "freeway". A thoroughfare would essentially be the type of highway that the current Route 29 is, where there would be access at all main intersections for drivers approaching from the east or west. These intersections would be controlled by either stop signs or stop lights. A freeway, on the other hand, would be the type of highway that Route 6 is, where there is continual non-stop traffic and access only through on/off ramps.

As a result of my concerns regarding safety and access, I feel that the first possibility must be removed from consideration. Route 29 is one of the most dangerous highways in Peoria County simply because there is access to the highway at every intersection along the way. We have had numerous fatal accidents on Route 29 involving student drivers and several close calls involving our busses. Also, a highway of this type would virtually prohibit the type of streamlined travel from Peoria to Chicago that this entire project is about. From the school district's perspective, our busses and student drivers at the high school would be much safer crossing a freeway by way of an underpass or an overpass. Please do not force them to stop as they now have to do when crossing Route 29. I hope that you will give some thought to these issues.

Sincerely,

Larry Williams  
Superintendent





# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4  
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111  
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 17, 2003

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Various Counties  
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Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. Larry Williams  
Illinois Valley Central  
1300 W. Sycamore  
Chillicothe, IL 61523

Dear Mr. Williams:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comment letter, you expressed support of an interstate type design for the proposed highway. To the extent possible, the comments and concerns mentioned in your letter will be considered during the decision-making process. Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your viewpoint. Your opinion will be included in the project record.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Eric S. Therkildsen".

By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

# COMMENT FORM

## ILLINOIS ROUTE 29 DESIGN STUDY

you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

1. WHY NOT USE THE ORIGINAL ALIGNMENT OF ROUTE 6.
2. SINCE RTE. 29 IS A 4 LANE ALL THE WAY TO THE NORTH EDGE OF CHILICOTHE, WHY NOT JUST START THERE?
3. WITH ALL OF THE FARM LAND AROUND, WHY DO YOU HAVE TO AFFECT SO MANY HOMEOWNERS?
4. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO HIDDEN VALLEY LN? WE CURRENTLY HAVE ACCESS TO WAYNE RD. & CAN GO NORTH OR SOUTH. IF WE CAN ONLY GO SOUTH, THEN THAT WILL BE AN ADDITION OF SEVERAL MILES TO GO TO CHILICOTHE.
5. OUR FIRE PROTECTION IS FROM THE RIVER FIRE STATION. CLOSING WAYNE RD. WILL ADD SEVERAL VALUABLE MINUTES TO RESPONSE TIME.
6. NOISE WILL BE A PROBLEM TO REMAINING HOMES AS WELL AS INCREASED POLLUTION. MOVE ROAD AWAY FROM RESIDENTIAL AREAS.

7. THIS IMPROVEMENT WILL SUBSTANTIALLY LOWER OUR REAL ESTATE VALUE. WHO WILL COMPENSATE THOSE OF US REMAINING?
8. WHAT ARE THE REAL CHANCES OF THIS HAPPENING AS CURRENTLY SHOWN?
9. WE ARE NOT OPPOSED TO THE OVERALL PROJECT, BUT IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO FOLLOW WAYNE RD. IF THIS IS THE SELECTED ALIGNMENT, MANY, INCLUDING US, WILL FIGHT IT.
10. WHY DON'T YOU JUST BUILD A BRIDGE ACROSS THE RIVER, WHERE RTE. 6 ENDS NOW @ MOSSVILLE AND CONNECT TO I-39?

Name: FRANK & DONNA STURM

Affiliation: HOMEOWNERS

Address: 3500 HIDDEN VALLEY LN.  
CHILICOTHE, IL 61523

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



# Illinois Department of Transportation

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Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02  
Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Sturm  
3500 Hidden Valley Lane  
Chillicothe, IL 61523

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Sturm:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comment letter you expressed concerns resulting from the proximity of the proposed alignment to Wayne Road. Several of your questions dealt with access issues. Decisions concerning access and locations of overpasses will be made as the study progresses. However, at this time it is not anticipated that either Wayne Road or Hidden Valley Lane would be closed. You also expressed concern about the possible increase in noise due to the proposed roadway. The Department is required, as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process, to complete a noise analysis for the proposed project. The results of that study will be presented in the EIS document. If the noise study indicates that excessive noise levels would occur at a particular area then mitigative measures will be evaluated based on cost/benefit factors. In addition, you inquired as to whether the alignment shown at the public meeting would be selected. The purpose of the study is to investigate and evaluate alignments. A preferred alignment will not be selected until all of the studies and public involvement is completed.

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Sturm  
October 17, 2003  
Page 2

Also, you questioned why the Department wouldn't start the project at the north edge of Chillicothe since a four-lane is present through Chillicothe. The desire is to provide a limited access, 65 mph roadway. This cannot be achieved along existing Illinois 29 through Chillicothe without substantial impacts due to the numerous access' and side roads present.

Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your concern.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer

By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

# COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study



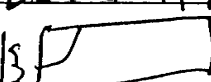
If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

6-21-03

DEAR SIR:

I WISHED THAT YOU WOULD HAVE INFORMED PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE SOUTH SEGMENT. I THOUGHT THE ROAD WOULD EFFECT ONLY THE LAND WE OWN IN CHILlicothe TWP PEORIA COUNTY. BOY WHAT A SURPRISE TO FIND OUT ~~SOME~~ LAND IN MEDINA TWP WAS EFFECTED.

I WAS TOLD BY I DOT PERSONNEL THAT THE STATE DOESN'T HAVE THE TIME TO LOOK UP ALL OWNERS IN EACH EFFECTED AREA OF PROPERTY. YET YOU FOLKS HAVE TIME TO STUDY EACH ROAD ISSUE INTO THE GROUND.

IF I BUILD SOME DAY ON MY MEDINA TWP PROPERTY SOMEDAY, HOW MUCH OF THE LAND WILL BE TAKEN? LOOKING WILL I LOSE AT LEAST A PIECE LIKE A PIE?  20 ACRES ON MEDINA TWP I TALK

ALSO I OWN ELEVEN ACRES AROUND THE REST AREA ON RT #29. WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THIS AREA? ARE WE GOING TO LOOSE 60' OF CROP LAND OR WILL IT BE 150' OF OUR FIELD ON RIGHT SIDE GOING TOWARD SPARLAND, IL.

ANOTHER ISSUE CAN YOU HAVE ALL THOSE TREES CUT DOWN ALONG THE SIDE FACING OUR FIELD? ALSO NEAR OUR ENTRANCE TO THE FARM GROUND. ALSO WHAT IS THE STATE WILLING TO DO ABOUT WATER DRAINAGE FROM RT #29. WILL THE NEW ROAD BE AS HIGH AS THE CURRENT ONE

Name: LEE A. MILLER

Affiliation: PROPERTY OWNER

Address: 313 WHISPERING OAKS  
METAMORA, ILL. 61548

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☐ Please add my name to the mailing list.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4  
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111  
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 17, 2003

## BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I

Illinois Route 29

Various Counties

Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180

Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02

Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. Lee Miller  
313 Whispering Oaks  
Metamora, IL 61548

Dear Mr. Miller:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comment letter, you asked several questions on how the proposed roadway would affect your properties in Medina Township and near the rest stop along Illinois 29. Engineering studies have not progressed to a point where questions concerning impacts to specific properties can be answered. As the study progresses design options and impacts will be refined, and more information will become available.

Your letter also stated that property owners should be informed of the project. At this time the Department does not have a list of property owners who may be affected by the project. In order to save money, title searches on all affected properties are done after the planning phase is completed and prior to land acquisition. Additional public meetings will be held to update the public and receive public input of the project. These meetings will be advertised in advance in local newspapers and will be included in the project's newsletters.

Mr. Lee Miller  
October 17, 2003  
Page 2

On your comment letter you didn't check the box stating that you would like to be on the mailing list to receive the project's newsletters. If you would like us to add you to the mailing list, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis as noted below.

Also, you inquired about removal of some trees along a field and near an entrance. If the trees are creating a safety hazard, the Department would like to become aware of their location and investigate the possibility of removal. If you would like the Department to pursue this possibility, please contact Mr. Shane Larson of our office at (309) 671-3333. He will be interested in the exact location of the trees and the nature of the problem.

Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your viewpoint. Your opinion will be included in the project record.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer



By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)  
District Bureau of Operations (S. Larson)

# COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study



If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

Henry - H4 just west of fairgrounds  
Use existing R1

Shen N4 north - Use as much existing roadway as possible. Do not lose the farmland.

Hopewell-Sparland - Use C3A + reroute R17 to North side

Rt 6 thru/past Chillicothe S4 use existing roads

Rural Expressway = less land use of viable farmland - Don't remove production land

Big issue w/ taking production land out of production. IL is losing farmland at an alarming rate. Once taken out of production, we never get it back.

The portion from Rt 6/474 to Rt 17 @ Sparland will provide the largest benefit for traffic.

A commute from Henry to Peoria involves the traffic in Peoria to Sparland. Most folks from Peoria use Rt 29 to get to Rt 17 to cross over to Rt 39.

Traffic on Rt 29 gets faster + faster. Without relief/expansion of Rt 29, accidents will increase.

By going West of Chillicothe, then the railroad viaduct would be avoided.

Name:

Rita Hargrave

Affiliation:

Address:

Henry IL 61537

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☐ Please add my name to the mailing list.

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Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02  
Catalog No. 032469-00P

Ms. Rita Haijenga  
609 Gateway Drive  
Henry, IL 61537

Dear Ms. Haijenga:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comment form, you expressed your support for an expressway design using S-4, C-3A, Illinois 29 through Henry, and N-4. Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your viewpoint. You also expressed your concern over impacts to farmland. The Department is aware of the importance of agricultural land and operations. Impacts to this resource are taken into account and minimized to the greatest extent possible. Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your viewpoint. Your opinion will be included in the project record.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Eric S. Therkildsen".

By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

# COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

M. Lewis

The Illinois Route 29 Study



If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

As is usually the case there is both a price and a cost associated with PROGRESS and in the ideal situation they are equal but always difficult and controversial to measure. Farmland lost to interstate or major highway construction is almost never recovered or returned to productive agricultural usage. But how do you measure the disruption to a farming operation and the loss of a family heritage that has been nurtured and cherished for several generations. Thomas Jefferson said that farmers were the most patriotic of citizens due to their love of and dependence on the land. I believe that you will find this true of most farmers and rural homeowners that have worked to build a life in the country. We are not against progress, the good of the country or our communities. We will not, on the other hand, willingly let this life be swept away without good cause or for the benefit of an elite few.

We keep hearing about the economic benefit that this new highway will deliver. This may be the true belief of the backers but there are no guarantees here. I will guarantee that a new highway will create cost, disruption, noise, drainage problems and relocation for those in it's path. Following existing and established routes will minimize these issues if done in a truly conscientious manner. Bypassing towns by abandoning existing roads will create abandoned towns and business as was pointed out in Jerry Klein's article about towns along Rt. 66 that have be forgotten since I-55 was opened. Route 29 must have some enduring values as it was selected as a state route many years ago and the railroad elected to build parallel to it. This was done in a time where much of the construction was manual in nature and roads were built with minimum grade to accommodate vehicles that didn't have power to spare. Today, that same design criteria would conserve fuel and our dependence on foreign oil. A new highway across the bluff will increase the need for more power and fuel as vehicles climb the steeper grades and the existing roads will be severed and result in longer travel distances for remaining residents, school busses and emergency vehicles such as police, fire and ambulance. This will cost the county more and taxes will have to be raised to offset the loss of tax dollars for land and property taken by another highway.

Ron Butte  
474 Yankee LN  
Chillicothe, IL 61523

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.
- ☒ Please add my name to the mailing list.
- ☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.

**Table A-1**  
**Existing (2001) Traffic on Illinois Route 29**

County	Mile Post	Land Mark	ADT	mu	%mu	su	%su
Bureau	0	I-180					
	2.16	Kentville Rd.	3,050	400	13%	200	7%
	2.82	Putnam County Line	3,050	350	11%	150	5%
Putnam	3.44	TR 57 (County Hwy 13)	3,050	350	11%	150	5%
	6.31	Marshall County Line	3,100	325	10%	175	6%
Marshall	1.53	TR 13	3,650	350	10%	250	7%
	2.54	Western Ave. (Henry)	5,600	200	4%	400	7%
	2.94	Spruce Ave. (Henry)	4,400	275	6%	200	5%
	4.55	TR 31	3,950	275	7%	200	5%
	9.07	North Street (Sparland)	3,650	300	8%	175	5%
	9.33	Hilltop Dr. (IL 17)	4,000	275	7%	175	4%
	9.57	Ferry St. (IL 17)	5,600	400	7%	400	7%
	9.91	Oak Street	7,500	425	6%	275	4%
	13.5	Peoria County Line	8,100	350	4%	250	3%
Peoria	2.03	Yankee Lane	8,100	350	4%	250	3%
	3.78	Wood St. (Chillicothe)	8,700	375	4%	275	3%
	4.08	Truitt St. (Chillicothe)	10,600	375	4%	525	5%

ADT = Average Daily Traffic

mu= multi-unit truck

su=single-unit truck

Source: IDOT

**Table A-2**  
**Existing (2001) Traffic on Crossroads**

County	Mile Post	Crossroad	West of IL 29					East of IL 29				
			ADT	mu	%mu	su	%su	ADT	mu	%mu	su	%su
Bureau Putnam	2.16	Kentville Rd./SBI 29A	600	60	10%	125	21%	950	30	3%	50	5%
	1.35	TR 39	100	0	0%	0	0%					
	2.23	TR 47A/TR 18	500	10	2%	30	6%	50	0	0%	0	0%
	3.11	TR 18						75	0	0%	0	0%
	3.25	TR 216	25	0	0%	0	0%					
	3.44	TR57/CH13	75	0	0%	0	0%	125	5	4%	10	8%
	3.5	TR 20	125	0	0%	0	0%					
	3.56	TR 216	75	0	0%	0	0%					
Marshall	3.7	Putnam-Bradford Rd. (FAS 247)	750	100	13%	200	27%					
	0	TR 5/ CH 17	50	0	0%	0	0%	250	5	2%	20	8%
	1.03	TR 9A	225	0	0%	0	0%	700	90	13%	150	21%
	1.53	TR 13	200	0	0%	0	0%	550	0	0%	0	0%
	2.03	TR 13B/Lincoln St.	75	0	0%	0	0%	1100	0	0%	0	0%
	2.21	Henry High School Ent.						325	5	2%	40	12%
	2.29	College Ave.						500	5	1%	30	6%
	2.41	Normal St.						450	0	0%	0	0%
	2.54	Western Ave. (IL 18)	850	50	6%	70	8%	4400	40	1%	285	6%
	2.72	Chestnut St.	125	0	0%	0	0%					
	2.94	Spruce St.	150	0	0%	0	0%					
	4.16	TR 60A	25	0	0%	0	0%	50	0	0%	0	0%
	4.55	TR 31	375	0	0%	0	0%					
	6.57	Campgrove Rd.	75	0	0%	10	13%					
	7.68	FA 318						25	0	0%	0	0%
	9.05	Thenius Rd.	350	5	1%	20	6%					
	9.33	Hilltop Dr.(IL 17)	1600	100	6%	200	13%					
	9.38	Main St.	125	0	0%	0	0%					
	9.47	North St.	350	0	0%	0	0%					
	9.57	Ferry St. (IL 17)	550	0	0%	0	0%	6800	175	3%	425	6%
	9.61	Elm St.	175	0	0%	0	0%					
	9.75	Willow St.	200	0	0%	0	0%					
	9.82	Maple St.	150	0	0%	0	0%					
	9.91	Oak St.	75	0	0%	0	0%					
	12.26	Hopewell Dr.	750	5	1%	20	3%					
Peoria	0.41	Crew Lane	50	0	0%	0	0%					
	1	Rest Area	50	0	0%	0	0%					
	1.31	Crew Lane	50	0	0%	0	0%					
	1.5	Hardscrabble Rd.	350	0	0%	0	0%					
	2.03	Yankee Lane	550	10	2%	20	4%	25	0	0%	0	0%
	2.31	Hart Lane	450	0	0%	0	0%					
	3.61	Gail Ave.	200	0	0%	0	0%					
	3.67	Wilmot Ave.	1550	0	0%	0	0%					
	3.75	Moffitt St.	375	0	0%	0	0%					
	3.78	Wood St.	1050	0	0%	0	0%					
	3.86	Caldwell St.	75	0	0%	0	0%					
	4	Hilda Ct.	75	0	0%	0	0%					
	4.08	Truitt Ave.	3900	40	1%	400	10%	550	0	0%	0	0%

ADT = Average Daily Traffic  
mu= multi-unit truck  
su=single-unit truck

Source: IDOT



# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4  
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October 17, 2003

BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT  
STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I  
Illinois Route 29  
Various Counties  
Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180  
Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02  
Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. Ron Butte  
474 Yankee Lane  
Chillicothe, IL 61523

Dear Mr. Butte:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comments, you expressed your opposition to Alignment C-2 which is on top of the bluff and your preference for the improvement to be constructed along existing Illinois 29. Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your viewpoint. Your input will be included in the project record.

In addition to your written comments, you also asked verbally at the public informational meetings about the amount of traffic currently using the existing roadway network. Enclosed are two tables showing some of the Average Daily Traffic (ADT) counts. The state maintained routes are counted every two years, and these counts can be found on the IDOT website at [www.dot.state.il.us/tpublic.html](http://www.dot.state.il.us/tpublic.html). Click on "Average Daily Traffic Counts" and then select "Marshall County" to look at your area. The state routes are shown, but if you click on the "Other Roads" button, you will see many of the county and township roads, including Yankee Lane and Hardscrabble Road.

Mr. Ron Butte  
October 17, 2003  
Page 2

Other smaller roads in your area will also have the traffic counted to aid in the decision-making process for the Illinois 29 project. Many of these counts were delayed until the school year began in order to better reflect the traffic patterns in the area. These counts will be processed later this fall. If you have interests in specific roads not shown on the enclosed tables or on the website, please contact our office for further information.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer



By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

## COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study



If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

I can understand the need for a 4 lane road. - But why does it need to be a 65 mph highway.

A four lane highway at 55 mph would be adequate. Route 29 to 180 could be widened to a 4 lane with a 55 mph limit. That would increase the flow. It would also help the small town businesses. The widening would be from north of Chillicothe to 180. This would impact

people & businesses yes. But a lot less people would be affected.

Will we ever be able to vote on this matter?

Name: Martena Byron  
Affiliation: Chillicothe resident  
Address: 232 Cloverfield Dr.  
Chillicothe, Ill. 61523

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

- ☐ Please add my name to the mailing list.
- ☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



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Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02

Catalog No. 032469-00P

Ms. Martena Byron  
232 Cloverfield Drive  
Chillicothe, IL 61523

Dear Ms. Byron:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comment letter, you expressed the opinion that in order to lessen the impact, the proposed roadway should be designed to 55 mph instead of 65 mph. The 65 mph facility is important for its reliability for the movement of goods and services. A 65 mph highway typically has less stoplights and stop signs and therefore is much more reliable in terms of travel times. Although the "saved minutes" is minimal to the average traveler, those minutes saved are critical to businesses and industries that rely heavily on timely deliveries. It is this reliability that is one of the key components in business' and industries' decisions to locate or continue business in a particular location.

Ms. Martena Byron  
October 17, 2003  
Page 2

You also asked if there would be a vote on this proposal. While there will not be a public vote on the proposed facility, public involvement through meetings with and correspondence from the public is an important part of any project development. Additional public meetings will be held to update the public and receive public input on the project. These meetings will be advertised in advance in local newspapers and will be included in the project's newsletters. Your participation in the project's public involvement activities is important to the Department.

Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your viewpoint. Your opinion will be included in the project record.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer



By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

# COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study



If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

I noticed that none of the proposed routes was very straight. How many total miles will be added because of all of these curves?

I saw that around Henry, H4 cut right down the middle of several farms. Why is the proposed route at least on the property lines. This may be the case elsewhere.

Can we forgo the 65 MPH requirement so that the project would not have to be so massive? A four lane road would be a great improvement.

The representative at the meeting kept talking about how preliminary this is and how dropped plans are not necessarily dead. Your poster doesn't indicate this and I think several good options were labeled dead (H2 or H1) + I wouldn't have known if I hadn't asked.

H4 is too close to town. This would crowd Henry, may impinge on the fairgrounds, the noise could bother the horses who workout/race at the fairgrounds, + H4 seems to be in line to destroy many houses and farms and irrigation systems.

Fair market value is not the same as rebuilding costs. Will there be help to relocate? How about moving expenses? One of the proposed homes targeted for destruction is only 4 years old. This would result in a greater hardship since there is so little equity in the newer house. Will this be taken into consideration?

Name: Kevin Greer

Affiliation: Tax Payer / 29 Commuter

Address: 1357 CTY RD 1350N

Henry, IL 61537

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☒ Please add my name to the mailing list.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



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Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02

Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. Kevin Greer  
1357 County Road 1350N  
Henry, IL 61537

Dear Mr. Greer:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comments, you expressed opposition to Alignment H-4 at Henry. Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your viewpoint. Your opposition will be included in the project record.

Also, you noted the alignments shown didn't always follow property lines. The alignments are developed to use existing property lines or existing right-of-way as much as possible to reduce impacts to individual property owners. Many other factors, such as locations of existing houses, existing roads, planned developments, and potential interchange locations, all play an important part in deciding where the highway should be placed.

Mr. Kevin Greer  
October 17, 2003  
Page 2

You asked if the 65 mph requirement could be lifted to reduce the impacts of this massive project. The 65 mph facility is important for its reliability for the movement of goods and services. A 65 mph highway typically has less stoplights and stop signs and therefore is much more reliable in terms of travel times. Although the "saved minutes" is minimal to the average traveler, those minutes saved are critical to businesses and industries that rely heavily on timely deliveries. It is this reliability that is one of the key components in business' and industries' decisions to locate or continue business in a particular location.

You also questioned the use of fair market value and aid in moving costs. If the Department were to purchase your property, an appraiser would carefully inspect the property and thoroughly investigate the real estate market in the area. Then you would be offered what the appraiser believed your property would bring if it were put up for sale. Every effort is made to arrive at the true value of the affected property.

If you have to relocate your home or business because the Department acquires your property for a state transportation project, you may be eligible, under the Department's Relocation Assistance and Payments Program, for reimbursement of reasonable and necessary moving expenses.

In addition, you asked how many miles the curves in the alignment added to the length of the project. While curves may add some additional length they often need to be added to avoid diagonal severances of farm fields, impact to developments or obstacles present in the surrounding terrain.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer



By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

# COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study



If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

Question 1 is there a way to help Spauland out so it is not losing so much revenue by tearing down houses & moving the railroad as the entire downtown section would be lost.

Question 2 - Since the City just had a flood plain buy out at the states insistence what will the state do to bring businesses into Spauland if it goes thru

Question 3 - how long will it take for a determination to be made as to what will be done & when it will be done.

Question 4. how will the people be paid in the acquisition of properties when the state is supposed to be broke & in how timely a fashion

Question 5 Can someone come by & explain better to us about the proposed routes when a determination is made so we as a village know what to expect.

who will be responsible for the High Speed highway moving & maintaining it & repairing it.

Name: TERRY L. MURPHY

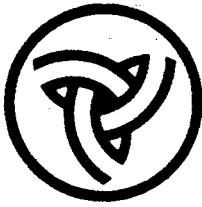
Affiliation: VILLAGE OF SPAULAND TOWNSHIP

Address: 407 3RD ST  
SPARLAND, IL 61565

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☒ Please add my name to the mailing list.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4  
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111  
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 17, 2003

## BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I

Illinois Route 29

Various Counties

Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180

Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02

Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. Terry Murphy  
407 3rd Street  
Sparland, IL 61565

Dear Mr. Murphy:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comments, you expressed your concern for Sparland's economic situation. Typically, an improved transportation network tends to enhance residential and commercial property development and values. Real estate tax base displaced by the roadway is often offset by increased tax base due to residential, commercial, and industrial development.

Your comments also asked when a determination would be made for this project. The current project is a four-year planning study to identify a preferred location for the expansion of Illinois 29. Currently there is no funding for the construction of this improvement. Because of the project's large cost and extensive engineering need, construction funding is typically sought near the completion of the planning phase. The funding of this project will depend greatly on available funds at that time along with its priority with other highway projects in Illinois and the nation. Because of the uncertainty regarding funding, no exact time frame can be given regarding actual construction.

Mr. Terry Murphy  
October 17, 2003  
Page 2

In regard to your questions about land acquisition, we've enclosed a copy of "A Landowners Guide to Land Acquisition by the State and Eminent Domain" and a copy of "Highway Improvements & Property Rights" to assist you. Currently, there is no funding for land acquisition for this project.

You also asked who would be responsible for the mowing, maintenance, and repair of the new facility. The Department will have those responsibilities in the same way it maintains the existing interstates and state routes.

Finally, if the Village of Sparland or any individual property owners would like more information at any point in the study, please contact our office. Public involvement is important to enable the Department to respond to the needs of the residents of the area.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer



By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

# COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study

29

If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

Dear Mr. Therkildsen;  
I am not in favor of H3 or H4. I am not in favor of any connection from 6 to I 180. I feel there are perfectly good highways already in place to get from Chicago to Peoria. Such as 74 to Rt 39 to Rt 88 or 74 to 55 takes less miles than any of these plans. Keep the highways that are currently existing in good shape! With the ever increasing urban sprawl we will soon lose all of our farm land, then we will have to buy our food grown in other countries. USA has the lowest cost for food. Currently we have been feeding the world. If we continue to take our good farm land for highways urban sprawl this will soon change. Not to mention the noise that a four lane highway will create. I do not want a highway

right next to my house! I enjoy my country life and don't want the solitude of it sacrificed for a highway. If there was no other roads that were four lanes leading to Chicago from Peoria I'd say yes! we need to be able to have access available. But we do!! So what is the main reason for this proposed project? To help the small towns in the path of the highway? I can not see how it will help the businesses in Henry, Spaulding, or Peterson. Cheltenham already has four lanes going through the town. Economy has delt to blow to these towns.

Name:

Lucretia Seidelbach

Affiliation:

Land owner

Address:

1215 Co Rd 1400 N. Henry, IL 61537

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☐ Please add my name to the mailing list.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.

JUN 16 2003



# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4  
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111  
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 17, 2003

## BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I

Illinois Route 29

Various Counties

Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180

Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02

Catalog No. 032469-00P

Ms. Lucretia Sendelbach  
1275 County Road 1400N  
Henry, IL 61537

Dear Ms. Sendelbach:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comments, you expressed your opposition to the Illinois 29 project. Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your viewpoint. Your input will be included in the project record.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer


A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric S. Therkildsen'.

By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

# COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study 

If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

IDOT

PLEASE STAY AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO THE PLANS IN EXISTENCE FOR OVER 30 YEARS. THIS HIGHWAY HAS TEASED PEOPLE FOR GENERATIONS. AT LEAST ALLOW US WHO PLANNED FOR THE FUTURE, WITH THE EXISTING PLANS IN MIND, THE COMFORT OF OUR PLANS.

IF YOU MUST BUILD THIS HIGHWAY, THEN GO WITH THE PLANS CREATED LONG AGO. I STILL THINK THIS HIGHWAY IS THE LAST OF 3 ALTERNATIVES - A BRIDGE AT MOSSVILLE WITH A CONNECTION TO 39 MAKES THE MOST SENSE. CONNECT NORTH PEORIA WITH WASHINGTON AND METAMORA, BEFORE BOTHERING WITH THIS HIGHWAY.

WHO IS PUSHING FOR THIS HIGHWAY? IS IT POLITICAL? OR IS IT TRULY THE BEST PLAN FOR CENTRAL ILLINOIS?

THOSE OF US HURT BY THIS DECISION PRAY IT IS NOT A POLITICAL DECISION. THE THOUGHT OF SO MANY LIVES BEING CHANGED DUE TO A POLITICAL DECISION IS HARMFUL. IF IT IS TRULY THE BEST PLAN FOR CENTRAL ILL, THEN I GUESS THAT IS THE WAY IT GOES.

Name:

CASS SCHMITT

Affiliation:

Address:

20330 HAMPTON ROAD

CHICAGO, IL 60623

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☐ Please add my name to the mailing list.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4  
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111  
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 16, 2003

BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT  
STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I  
Illinois Route 29  
Various Counties  
Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180  
Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02  
Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. Cass Schmitt  
20330 Hampton Road  
Chillicothe, IL 61523

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comments, you expressed your desire to have the project mirror the plans from 30 years ago as much as possible, as well as your preference for a river crossing at Mossville and a connection to Interstate 39. Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your viewpoint. Your input will be included in the project record.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Eric S. Therkildsen".


By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

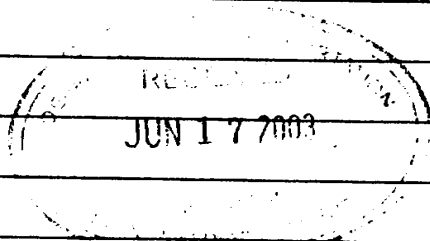
# COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study 

If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

AS A HOMEOWNER IN GALENA KNOLLS  
SUBDIVISION, I AM CONCERNED ABOUT THE  
PROBABILITY OF INCREASED NOISE  
THE NEW ROAD WILL BRING TO OUR  
AREA.

WHAT WILL BE DONE TO MINIMIZE  
NOISE IF A SOUND STUDY SHOWS  
THERE WILL BE INCREASED NOISE LEVELS?



Name: DANIEL E. HAYWARD

Affiliation: HOMEOWNER

Address: 16207 N. REGENCY PK PL  
CHILLICOTHE, IL 61523

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☒ Please add my name to the mailing list.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4  
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111  
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 16, 2003

## BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I

Illinois Route 29  
Various Counties  
Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180  
Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02  
Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. Daniel Hayward  
16207 N. Regency Park Place  
Chillicothe, IL 61523

Dear Mr. Hayward:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed comments, you expressed concern about the possible increase in noise due to the proposed roadway near the Galena Knolls Subdivision. The Department is required, as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process, to complete a noise analysis for this project. The results of that study will be presented in the EIS document. If the noise study indicates that noise levels will exceed certain thresholds, then measures to minimize the effects will be evaluated based on cost/benefit factors. Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your concern.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer

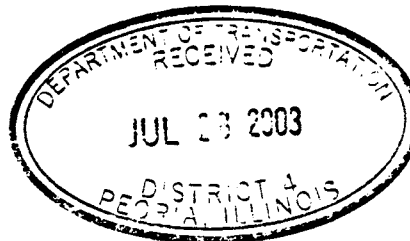
A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Eric S. Therkildsen".

By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)



One Geon Center • Avon Lake, Ohio 44012 • 440-930-3004  
246-930-1000

251 Chancellor's Park Court  
Simpsonville, S.C. 29681  
July 23, 2003

Mr. Eric Therkildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer  
Illinois Department of Transportation  
401 Main Street  
Peoria, Illinois 61602



**SUBJECT: Illinois Route 29 Study**

Dear Mr. Therkildsen:

I enjoyed meeting you at the Public Information Meeting, held on June 11, 2003 at Henry Senachwine High School on Highway 29. I realize that this was a preliminary overview as to the various alignments for route 29 that the Department has under consideration. It was good to meet some of the persons; both from IDOT and CH2M HILL that are currently involved in this major project of expansion of Illinois 29 to four lanes.

Lincoln and Southern Railroad as a property owner, has an ongoing interest in the outcome of this project. Our operator, the Iowa Interstate Railroad, has a very strong interest as well.

We are extremely concerned that the drainage conditions along the right of way do not deteriorate as a consequence of any work done on Rte. 29, particularly that could effect the railroad right of way. To assist us in assessing the drainage issues, as well as the project in general, we appreciate receiving copies of your hydraulic engineering survey when it is completed.

Depending on the final footprint for the highway IDOT may require easements. We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss the impact of those easements on railroad operations. In addition, if Route 17 at Sparland is realigned we would appreciate IDOT consulting with us on (minimum required) clearance issues.

Naturally, the Lincoln & Southern would have a deep interest in assisting IDOT in the identification and selection of reputable contractors for any track revision relocation work.

If you have any question, please contact me.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald M. Murray".

Donald M. Murray, President  
Lincoln & Southern Railroad

Cc Richard W. Stafford, PE  
CH2M Hill

Patrick H. Sheldon, AVP  
Iowa Interstate Railroad

Woodrow Ban  
PolyOne Corporation

Dennis Bailey,  
PolyOne Corporation



# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4  
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111  
Telephone 309/671-3333

October 16, 2003

BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT  
STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I  
Illinois Route 29  
Various Counties  
Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180  
Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02  
Catalog No. 032469-00P

Mr. Donald Murray  
Lincoln & Southern Railroad Company  
One Geon Center  
Avon Lake, OH 44012

Dear Mr. Murray:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

The Department is continuing with preliminary alignment studies. Through comparisons of engineering and environmental factors, as well as public input, a preferred alignment will be identified which will address the needs of the region. Preliminary measures to minimize harm will be investigated, probable construction costs estimated, and preliminary right of way requirements established during this study. Future public meetings will be held to update the public of the project's progress and to gather additional input.

In your enclosed letter, you expressed Lincoln & Southern Railroad's interest in this project. The Department considers up-to-date and ongoing coordination with your office to be an important aspect of the project's development. You have been placed on the project's mailing list and will be consulted periodically when questions arise regarding railroad property or operations.

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Eric S. Therkildsen".

By: Eric S. Therkildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)

## COMMENT FORM - June 2003 Public Information Meetings

The Illinois Route 29 Study



If you have questions, comments, or opinions related to this study, please complete this comment form.

If you could come "straight" south off of I-180 initially, and just widening it there to the Kentville Rd., that would be great. You also would avoid the cemetery between the end of I-180 and Rt 29 going toward Bureau Junction.

I appreciate the hard work and planning that have gone into this project so far. We definitely need a better road somehow between I-180 and Peoria. Keep up the good work!

Name: Kenelene Forbeck

Affiliation: Landowner and Farmer

Address: 8960 2350 East Street  
Tiskilwa, IL 61368-9378

Please fold, tape, and mail. No envelope or postage is necessary.

☒ Please add my name to the mailing list.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.



# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways / District 4  
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October 17, 2003

## BUREAU OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT STUDIES & PLANS - PHASE I

Illinois Route 29

Various Counties

Four Lane Study along IL 29 from IL 6 to I-180

Job Nos. P-94-009-01 & P-94-019-02

Catalog No. 032469-00P

Ms. Kenalene Forbeck  
8960 2350 East Street  
Tiskilwa, IL 61368

Dear Ms. Forbeck:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Illinois 29 project from Illinois 6 near Mossville to Interstate 180 near Hennepin. A copy of your comment letter is enclosed for your reference.

Public meetings held in June presented preliminary alignments for the Illinois 29 project and offered an opportunity for the public to discuss the project with Illinois Department of Transportation representatives and provide input about the study. The meetings were well attended and provided the Department with a great deal of information about the transportation needs of the study area.

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In your enclosed comments, you expressed your support to the Illinois 29 project. You also mentioned the location of a cemetery between the end of Interstate 180 and Illinois 29. The Department is in the process of completing surveys that will identify resources, such as cemeteries, throughout the project corridor. However, in some instances not all resources are located and identified. Receiving feedback from those residents in the area is always a benefit to the Department. Your continued cooperation and support throughout this process is appreciated. Thank you for taking the time to let the Department know your viewpoint.

Ms. Kenalene Forbeck  
October 17, 2003  
Page 2

The Department appreciates your interest in this highway project. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Mike Lewis of this office at (309) 671-3474.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Crowe, P.E.  
District Engineer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eric S. Therikildsen".

By: Eric S. Therikildsen, P.E.  
Program Development Engineer

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Project File (M. Lewis)  
CH2M Hill (Attn: Mr. Jim Jodie)